(c) and (d) The release of subsidy to fertilizer units is a continuous process. Thus, at any point in time there are certain current subsidy dues which are under process for payment to various fertilizer units in the country. Further, subsidy is released based on claims submitted by various companies and do not relate directly to any particular State.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) In view of (e) above, the question does not arise.

Re-opening of Talcher

†30. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the closed units of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCIL) located at Talcher in Orissa is likely to be operationalized in near future;

(b) if so, the concrete steps taken so far in this direction; and

(c) by when the production work would be restarted in the unit of FCIL located at Talcher?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) Pursusant to decision taken by the Government on 12th April, 2007 to examine the feasibility of reviving the various closed units of FCIL and HFCL subject to the confirmed availability of gas, the techno-economic feasibility of revival of the various closed units was examined. It was found that except for the existing plant machinery, the basic infrastructure, *viz.* land, water, electricity, railway siding, silos etc. could be gainfully utilized for setting up of new brown field urea projects, subject to availability of natural gas. Keeping in view the above, the Government on 30.10.2008 approved constitution of an Empowered Committee of Secretaries to look into all financial models for revival of each of the closed units along with their other linkages including gas. The Government has also accorded in principle approval for considering write-off of Government of India loans and interest liabilities of FCIL and HFCL. However, final decision on the waiver will be taken when fully tied-up proposals are received by the Government. Pursuant to the Government's decisions, the Empowered Committee of Secretaries (ECOS) has been constituted and all options for revival of the various closed units including the Talcher unit of FCIL, are being examined by the ECOS. As regards the commencement of production in Talcher plant of FCIL, it is not feasible to indicate a time frame at this stage.

Selling of PDS wheat and rice in open market

31. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether during last three years, Rs. 31,585.98 crore worth of wheat and rice meant for PDS and during 2006 alone, Rs. 11336.98 crore worth of PDS foodgrains were sold into the market illegally;

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.